

generations of Americans. Entitlements are not rights. Assistance, if needed, must be temporary—2 years and you're out. We need workfare now. If you can work—but won't—don't ask the taxpayer for help. We can no longer afford a government which subsidizes single mothers who continue to have more children. Unwed mothers must identify the fathers of their children and we must rein in deadbeat dads who refuse to support their families.

Mr. Speaker, time is running out, we must act quickly and forcefully to end the liberal welfare state. For the sake of every American, it really is past time to end welfare as we know it.

#### CONGRESS SHOULD QUIT BICKERING AND GO TO WORK

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I received a call from a very angry constituent who had the unfortunate experience of watching yesterday's House proceedings. His message to me was simply: "Quit your bickering and get on with it."

Mr. Speaker, my constituent is right on the money. We do need to get on with it and that is why the renewed conviction I call on my fellow Members to join me in passing a balanced budget amendment.

Because Congress has for years proven incapable of fiscal discipline, only a strong tax limitation balanced budget amendment will force Congress to kick the habit of reckless spending.

I do recognize that Congress has tried in the past to restrain its voracious spending, but somehow these efforts always prove to be in vain. This must not and cannot continue.

The American people have spoken. They want a leaner and less intrusive government. They want us to put our financial house in order. And, finally, they want us to end politics as usual that leads to partisan bickering and gridlock.

#### NOT ALL MANDATES ARE CREATED EQUAL

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, unfunded mandates have gotten out of control. State and local governments have every reason to be frustrated. They do need relief. But we were elected and have a responsibility to do this right. Too much is at stake to just pass a bill without adequate hearings, without really listening to the people and say it is the answer and just ignore the consequences.

Not every mandate is the same, but this bill paints them all with the same brush. Under this bill, a mandate to prevent communities from dumping toxic chemicals into rivers that then

destroy bodies of water like Long Island Sound and an absurd requirement that New York City has to wash its jail cells three times a day are treated alike. Likewise, the authors of this bill make no distinction between mandates to protect our children from abuse and requirements on the format of government reports.

Not all mandates are created equal, and this bill should not treat them the same. Over the next few days, we are going to discuss this issue.

#### ME TOO, BUT

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, there are some strange new creatures roaming the Halls of Congress these days. I am going to call them *Metooobuts* because of the peculiar sound they make. We just heard one.

Let me tell you how to spot a *Metooobut*. Their habitat is on the minority side of the aisle. To flush them out, just make a statement of Republican principle, for instance, "We want to end unfunded mandates." The Democrats, who have never met a mandate they didn't like, will say, "Me too, but \* \* \*."

Or say that we Republicans want to balance the budget. The Democrats, who approved all the spending that led to the mess we are in, will say, "Me too, but \* \* \*."

We want to shrink the size of Government. "Me too, but \* \* \*."

We want a middle-class tax cut. "Me too, but \* \* \*."

It is not just a case of the tiger changing his stripes, it is more like the tiger has become a vegetarian.

Mr. Speaker, the American people won't buy this phony conservative conversion by the Democrats and after the American people witness the extraordinary effort we are making to change the Congress and keep our promises, I think the *Metooobuts* may become an endangered species around here.

#### NO MEMBER IS ABOVE CRITICISM

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, this morning I awakened to a national news report that a Republican chairman of a major committee has threatened the President of the United States of America. That chairman, Chairman LEACH, threatened that Republicans will withdraw their support for the bipartisan provision to bail out the peso in Mexico if Democratic Members do not stop criticizing the Speaker.

No Member is beyond criticism. No Member should be placed in a special position where we cannot unveil to the American public what we think is going on. The truth must be unveiled. Instead of threatening us, we need an independent investigation.

#### UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORM ACT OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCINNIS). Pursuant to House Resolution 38 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to curb the practice of imposing unfunded Federal mandates on States and local governments, to ensure that the Federal Government pays the costs incurred by those governments in complying with certain requirements under Federal statutes and regulations, and to provide information on the cost of Federal mandates on the private sector, and for other purposes, with Mr. EMERSON in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, January 19, 1995, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in House Report 104-2 is considered by titles as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. Each of the first four sections and each title are considered as read.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition to a Member offering an amendment that has been printed in the designated place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Those amendments will be considered as read.

The Clerk will designate section 1.

The text of section 1 is as follows:

H.R. 5

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995".

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any amendments to section 1?

The Clerk will designate section 2.

The text of section 2 is as follows:

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to strengthen the partnership between the Federal Government and States, local governments, and tribal governments;

(2) to end the imposition, in the absence of full consideration by Congress, of Federal mandates on States, local governments, and tribal governments in a manner that may displace other essential State, local, and tribal governmental priorities;

(3) to assist Congress in its consideration of proposed legislation establishing or revising Federal programs containing Federal mandates affecting States, local governments, tribal governments, and the private sector by—

(A) providing for the development of information about the nature and size of mandates in proposed legislation; and

(B) establishing a mechanism to bring such information to the attention of the Senate